

**Immunization Registry Progress in
IDAHO
April 27, 2000**

Immunization Coverage in Idaho:

According to the National Immunization Survey (NIS) data for July 1998 to June 1999, the percentage of children 19 – 35 months of age who were up-to-date with 4 doses of diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, 3 doses of poliomyelitis, and 1 dose of measles, mumps, rubella vaccine was 73.2%.

Facts about Idaho's Registry:

- In Governor Kempthorne's first state of the state message on January 11, 1999, he declared this to be the **Generation of the Child**. His first priority was to achieve a 90% immunization rate for Idaho's children.
- On March 25th 1999 Governor Kempthorne signed into law legislation to establish a voluntary statewide immunization registry. A plan was developed and approved on December 2, 1999.
- Idaho contracted with Scientific Technologies Corporation to implement the Idaho Immunization Reminder and Information System (IRIS). IRIS is a voluntary immunization registry.

Registry plans, accomplishments, and successes:

- IRIS is a voluntary registry where participants provide written consent allowing immunization information to be included in the State Registry.
- Each of the seven independent public health districts in Idaho will obtain consent from their patients and provide immunization data to IRIS. This process will begin in May 2000.
- All of the public health districts will be connected to IRIS by August 2000.
- The public health districts will recruit family practitioners, pediatricians, and hospitals for inclusion in IRIS.
- Design of a web-based application allowing providers to access IRIS via the internet will begin in November 2000.

Some challenges and barriers affecting registry progress:

- Partnerships with many of the state's critical stakeholders need development to help market the statewide registry system to providers and parents.
- As private providers are connected to IRIS there may be technological challenges due to the wide variety of hardware and software configurations.
- Idaho continues to solicit necessary funding sources and hardware to assist in the implementation of IRIS.

Additional Information:

Idaho is appreciative of the Center for Disease Control's support to help make the implementation of IRIS a success and the goal of a 90% immunization rate for the state a reality.

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